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Subject: Portland Harbor Update
Date: Friday, September 18, 2015 2:59:02 PM

Bob and Jim,

The focus of the Portland Harbor cleanup will be on those areas that have the highest levels of toxic and persistent contaminants and whose cleanup will have the most impact on reducing risks to human health and the environment. EPA believes the best cleanup approach is one that sufficiently reduces risk in the areas where contamination is highest to allow for MNR to achieve cleanup levels in a reasonable time frame. Risk reduction predictions over a long period of time, through modelling, are complex and uncertain. To help inform the best balance among active remediation, cost, and MNR, EPA is conducting further evaluation, including but not limited to, the following areas:

- o MNR effectiveness
 - Long Term Modeling Projections
 - Changes in bathymetry (underwater depth, due to sediment deposition and erosion)
 - Contaminant concentration trends in smallmouth bass (a small home-range fish)
- o In-situ and ex-situ treatment technology assumptions
- o Combination of alternatives to achieve greater risk reduction cost-effectively at construction complete
 - Focus on hot spot areas (Sediment Decision Units (SDUs))
 - Apply and evaluate different alternatives in each SDU
 - Evaluate the need for construction activities outside SDUs
 - Minimize long term restrictions in the river

We encourage our partners and key stakeholders to provide the NRRB and CSTAG, in writing, up to 40 pages, any technical issues pertinent to the cleanup decision, including the rationale and any recommended approach for site cleanup. The partners and key stakeholders should provide their input by October 19, 2015, directly to Kristine Koch, Remedial Project Manager at EPA Region 10, 1200 Sixth Avenue, suite 900, Seattle, Washington 98101.

The NRRB and CSTAG will consider the input during their joint review. The EPA will consider

the advisory recommendations from the NRRB and CSTAG in developing EPA's preferred alternative. EPA plans to release its Proposed Plan identifying the Preferred Alternative in spring 2016, and will solicit formal public comment, pursuant to the National Contingency Plan. EPA will evaluate the comments received, make appropriate changes and select the final remedy in the Record of Decision.

If you have any questions regarding this process, please feel free to contact me.

Regards,

Kristine Koch
Remedial Project Manager
USEPA, Office of Environmental Cleanup

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